



CSFD *Fire Log*

City of College Station Fire Department Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 2

May 2004

CSFD MISSION STATEMENT

During March 2004 Chief Giordano discussed the new CSFD mission statement and asked you contact him with any comments you may have. A few comments were received by the Chief. There was support for the new mission statement as presented. Effective immediately CSFD will begin using our new mission statement.

The Mission of the College Station Fire Department is to protect the lives and property of the citizens and visitors of College Station during all emergencies and disasters, whether natural or man-made, To promote a safe community through public education, fire prevention, parking services, and code enforcement in order to maintain and uphold the integrity of the City and its neighborhoods, To maintain a high standard of training and education for our employees, To encourage our employees to serve as role models and participate in the community, and To utilize effectively and efficiently all available resources to provide service deemed excellent by the people.

Compassion

Service

Focus

Dedication

Thanks to Greg Rodgers, Bart Humphreys, Joe Warren and Cindy Dillard for their efforts in updating our mission statement to better reflect who we are and what we do.

LOSS FREQUENCY DOWN

The city has concluded another encouraging performance this second quarter. The city's loss frequency is down 17 accidents in Auto Physical Damage. We continue to show improvement because of your focus on accepting the responsibility for working safely. It is **extremely important** for all of us to continue to build on the momentum created. The challenges and changes will only help us to find the goals that we knew were meant to come true for us. (APD) and down three Liability claims. We are up 5 claims or (28%) in Workers comp over last year. Our expenses are down in APD \$5,373 or (41%) while stable in Liability claims. We had an increase in cost in our Workers Comp program of \$25,558 or (46%). Our Subrogation recovery was \$21,980 for a net 2nd quarter cost for new claims of \$49,285. Please see the attachment below.

Risk Management has a new employee, please welcome **Sandra Gallaway** as our new **Risk Claims Coordinator**. Sandra will be handling all of the Claims Administration functions for Risk Management, including our Modified Duty Program.

We believe that the ARB's and Safety committees will continue to be of significant value in reducing losses. They will function by design, promoting safety as a loss prevention mechanism. We are developing training for both ARB's and Safety Committee areas in the near future. Risk Management **Applauds** your collective achievement this fiscal year.

2004 CSFD Country Fare Employee Picnic

Friday, June 4

Bee Creek Park Adamson Lagoon

Don't forget the department picnic! Lot's of land and water activities and prizes for the winners. And don't forget the good food - BBQ. Gates and pavilion open at 5:30 pm for swimming - socializing - music and continue until about 11:00pm. The BBQ buffet will start serving at 6:00 pm. Swimwear (challenge the lilly pads), and country attire a must. Some highlights include face painting, horseshoes, go-fish, a piñata, wheel-barrel races, sack races, limbo (if you dare), and of course the first ever "Pumper Races" – all hosted by our great Auxiliary. There will also be prizes for the Best Dressed Cowboy and Cowgirl. Please get your reservation and t-shirt order in now.

HOMEBUYER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Chiefs - As you know, the city's down payment assistance funds are not available to city employees because of a conflict with the city charter. However, we'd like to make you and your staff aware of the following state program which assists fire & police first time homebuyers. Please let your officers/firefighters know about the program if they are not already aware. The link to the Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation "Homes for Heroes" program is:

http://www.tsahc.org/programs/single_firepolice.php

Healthy Tips

Sauté or stir-fry your veggies with a non-fat cooking spray rather than oil. You can also try sautéing in wine, broth, lemon, lime, apple or orange juice for an added kick. You'll save up to 45 calories, enough to shed five pounds in a year if you do it daily.

Make a healthy substitution when you bake. When a recipe calls for oil, add the same amount of unsweetened applesauce instead. Replace each tablespoon of sugar with one teaspoon of mashed banana. It's all the sweetness with none of the guilt.

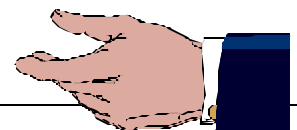
Sandwich your lunch with healthy alternatives. Substitute mustard for mayo and you'll save up to 36,500 calories a year. That adds up to more than 10 pounds. And while you're at it, grab pretzels instead of chips. You'll save an average of 50 calories and 8 grams of fat every day.

Excerpt Boise Cascade

SAFETY COMMITTEE

If you have any concerns or items of interest please contact any one of the following members: Jerry Duffey, Billy Bradshaw, Cindy Dillard, Brad Haggerton, David Huff, James Sears, or Mikel Reed.

ALWAYS WEAR YOUR SEATBELT



EMPLOYEE OF THE FIRST QUARTER 2004



Bill Walton has been with the department for over 20 years and rarely misses a day of work. He is calm and steady and one of the most dependable people. Bill is an active member of the city's CISM team. Additionally, Bill helps the Fire Prevention and Education program acting as a puppeteer and roustabout for the group. The volume of shows and children that are educated speaks for the dedication of the entire group and Bill is an integral part. As a firefighter, Bill often moves up to serve as the ARFF

driver to fill staffing needs. His ability to move into a specialized position helps the department and shift.

Desktop attitude

From the picture frames you choose to the mug you place your ink pens in; every item on your desk says something about your style and personality.

What does your desk say about you?

Neat Freak

Everything has an appropriate place, files are neatly stored away – even your computer documents are organized. You're the type of person that thrives on structure, often using checklists to get all the day's tasks accomplished. And while you're very dependable, you also like to know what's expected of you.

Clutter Queen

A few piles of papers never hurt anyone right? Some might see your desk as a mess, but it's organized chaos to you. A cluttered desk doesn't mean you're unorganized; it simply means you have a different way of working. You're more open to last minute projects and generally have a more flexible demeanor.

Compliments of Boise Cascade

CHIEF'S NOTEBOOK

2004 Budget Items

As you know we are in the process of preparing our 2004-2005 budget. In addition to our base budget we have submitted twelve Service Level Adjustments for consideration through the budget process. Service Level Adjustments submitted are: Administrative Assistant to fill the Quartermaster position, Code Enforcement Supervisor, Ladder truck, Firefighters under the "SAFER ACT", Training position, Training dollars, Public Education assistant, overtime funding for Paramedic schools, Generator for station one, FEMA grant funding, metal storage building, and degree pay. We are also looking at the possibility of increasing holiday time by one shift.

Of course we have a long way to go to complete the budget process. As you know we are very concerned with the school finance issue and how the final bill will impact our community and others. We will keep you posted as we proceed through the budget process.

Employee Recognition Program

We have modified our employee recognition program to shift from an Employee of the Month to an Employee of the Quarter. This change was based on personnel feedback we have received since the inception of the program. I encourage all of you to take the opportunity to use this program to recognize and highlight those activities conducted by your peers. This program offers you the opportunity the say "job well done and thanks" to your coworkers. **This is your program.**

Thanks from Bryan Fire Department

Chief Donoho would like to thank the members of College Station Fire Department during the recent weather events on May 13, 2004. College Station sent crews to the City of Bryan to assist with the multiple responses encountered by Bryan as well as standing by for swift water rescues. Chief Donoho expressed his appreciation to College Station personnel for their "can do attitude and their professionalism."

I would also like to add my thanks to all members of CSFD for the assistance provided to Bryan and also to South Brazos County Volunteer Fire Dept.



Chief G.

CITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS HELD MAY 15, 2004

As a result of the May 15, 2004 City Council Elections we will see two new faces representing the citizens of College Station. Nancy Berry will represent Place 6. Council Member Berry will fill the vacated position previously held by Ann Hazen.

Susan Lancaster will represent Place 4. Council Member Lancaster defeated incumbent Scott Mears and TAMU student Dustin Crawford. Mayor Ron Silvia and Council Member John Happ ran unopposed and will retain their respective positions on the Council. Congratulations to our new Council Members and good luck to Scott Mears.

City Council Members are: Mayor Ron Silvia, James Massey, Dennis Maloney, John Happ, Robert Wareing, Susan Lancaster, and Nancy Berry.

ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT PROGRAM

Public Education Officer Cindy Giedraitis and Research and Planning Coordinator/Public Information Officer Bart Humphreys were invited to participate in the Peer Review/Technical Evaluation phase of the Department of Homeland Security, Office of Domestic Preparedness, Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program, in Emmittsburg, MD, from May 5th through May 7th.

The AFG, funded at \$750 million for FY 04, is a competitive, matching fund grant program that allows any fire department to apply in one of three priority areas:

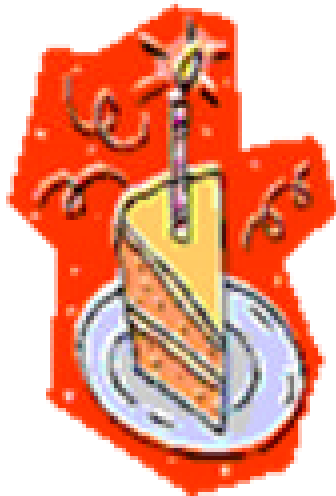
Operations and Firefighter Safety Program. Eligible activities under this function are limited to training, equipment, personal protective equipment, wellness and fitness, and modifications to fire stations and facilities.

Fire Prevention Program. Eligible activities under this function include, but are not limited to, public education and awareness activities, fire code enforcement activities, fire inspector certifications, purchase and installation of smoke alarms and fire suppression systems, wildland mitigation, and arson prevention and detection activities.

Firefighting Vehicle Acquisition Program. Eligible apparatus under this program include, but are not limited to, pumpers, brush trucks, tankers/tenders, rescue vehicles, ambulances, quints, aerials, foam units, and fireboats.

Approximately 21,000 grant applications were submitted this year and this was the fourth and final week of the peer review process. There were approximately 100 reviewers working each week and each application is reviewed separately by three reviewers. Over 4,700 applications were reviewed the last week, all from volunteer or combination departments.

The peer review process is unique to the AFG program and is a major factor in the success of the program. The AFG process is being evaluated as a blueprint for other federal grant programs.



LET'S CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS

June and July

Chet Barker	Nicholas King
Matt Brunson	James McNeely
Morgan Cook	David Moore
Calvin Deal	Andy Ramirez
Cindy Dillard	Kevin Simmons
Bobby Fickey	Darryl Smith
Joseph Gibson	Gary Stevener
David Giordano	Tim Valdez
Bart Humphreys	Richard Weisser
Eric Hurt	Rick Westbrook
Stacy Jeter	Jimmy Yow
Chris Kelly	